

January 4, 1995

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President. I move to proceed to the election of the Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Hearing the motion, all those in favor say aye. All those opposed nay. We now proceed to the election of the Speaker. Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, I ask for a point of personal privilege to explain to the senators that this year I made a suggestion to Mr. O'Donnell that we go to a ballot, if each senator looks, they have been passed out a ballot for the Speaker with all the senators' names on it. They have a choice, it's just a piece of paper. You can either check off the individual that you'd like to elect for Speaker on this piece of paper. You've also been given a blank piece of paper if you would like to write the senator's name on that. I've talked with Mr. O'Donnell, he'll accept either form.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I just want to make it clear that this is a proposal that Senator Witek brought to the Rules Committee at a very late date. We did hold a hearing on a number of proposed rules changes. Senator Witek's staff appeared and presented this proposed rule change. The committee took no action on this. We have not scheduled an Executive Session yet. There was no testimony in favor of this or in opposition. There was...the committee was contacted by several senators, all of whom were in opposition to this proposal. And I would simply submit to you that without a good reason for a change that we ought to stick with the handwritten ballots that we have used in the past.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Will. We can now proceed to accept nominations for the Speaker. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. It is with a sense of honor and some humility that I offer my name, George Coordsen, in nomination for your Speaker for the next biennium. Each of you, by this point in time, have decided on all of the races that we will make for the various leadership positions in the Legislature what your position will be. I only wish to share with you this morning that my